

Application No. 10/806,571
Docket No. 8020702767 (formerly 6175-065)
Response to Office Action dated June 26, 2008

Remarks

As an initial matter, Applicants kindly request the correction of the "Attorney Docket No." from 8020699541 to 8020702767.

Claims 1-22 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 3 4, 7-12 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being unpatentable over Maudlin, U.S. App. No. 2004/0075697 (hereinafter "Maudlin"). Claim 2 is rejected under 103(a) as unpatentable over Maudlin in view of Gordon U.S. Pat. No. 7,043,701 (hereinafter "Gordon"). Claims 5, 6, 13, 14, 16 and 17 were rejected under 103(a) as unpatentable over Maudlin in view of Arnold U.S. Pat. No. 6,812,940 (hereinafter "Arnold"). Claim 15 was rejected under 103(a) as unpatentable over Maudlin in view of Arnold and Gordon. Claims 18, 19, 21 and 22 were rejected under 103(a) as unpatentable over Maudlin in view of Arnold and in further view of Schell et al. U.S. Pat. No. 6,628,279 (hereinafter "Schell"). Claims 1, 6, 11, 18 and 20 have been amended. The amendments to claims 1, 18 and 20 are addressed below. The amendments to claims 5 and 11 were made to correct typographical errors and improve the readability of the claims. Reconsideration of the present application in view of the interview conducted with the Examiner on November 5, 2005 is respectfully requested.

Applicants are grateful for the telephonic interview conducted with Examiner Alvesteffer on November 5, 2008. During this interview, it was agreed that "the recited claims will appear to overcome the prior art of record if amended so that an object that is removed from view

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consists of a single face.”¹ Particularly, it was agreed that such an amendment would overcome any rejection based on the Maudlin reference.

In an effort to better describe Applicants’ invention and to place the Application in a condition of allowance, Applicants amended independent claims 1, 18 and 20 to essentially recite that visibility of a face of the plurality of entities may be independently controlled. As agreed during the interview with the Examiner, these amendments to the claims clearly distinguish Applicants’ invention from Maudlin, notwithstanding the addition of Gordon, Arnold and/or Schell. For at least this reason, withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 1, 18 and 20 is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-17 depend on and include all of the limitations of independent claim 1. Therefore, all of the arguments made with respect to claim 1 apply with equal force to claims 2-10. For at least this reason, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2-10 is respectfully requested.

Claim 19 depends on and includes all of the limitations of independent claim 18. Therefore, all of the arguments made with respect to claim 18 apply with equal force to claim 19. For at least this reason, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 19 is respectfully requested.

Claims 21 and 22 depends on and include all of the limitations of independent claim 20. Therefore, all of the arguments made with respect to claim 20 apply with equal force to claims

¹ Interview Summary dated 11/07/2008 (attached).

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21 and 22. For at least this reason, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 21 and 22 is respectfully requested.

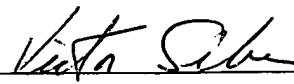
CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of presently pending claims 1-22 in this application is believed to be in a condition for allowance. While the Examiner reserves the right to conduct a new prior art search, Applicants respectfully submit that such a search is not necessary, because the amendments to the claims do not change the scope of the prior art search that was originally conducted.

Nevertheless, should the Examiner execute a new prior art search, and should this new search result in prior art that in the Examiner's opinion prevent the immediate allowance of this Application, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact the undersigned with any suggestions that would place the Application in a condition of immediate allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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